AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-86. (Canceled)

87. (Previously Presented) An epidermis equivalent comprising at least keratinocytes, said epidermis equivalent being obtained by seeding of at least keratinocytes onto a dermis equivalent comprising at least glycated collagen and fibroblasts, wherein said dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 2-30 times that of a control dermis comprising collagen not subjected to a glycation process and fibroblasts.

88. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein said epidermis equivalent has a modified distribution of expression of β1 integrin.

89. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 88, wherein the modified distribution of expression is expression of β1 integrin in the cells of at least the first three suprabasal layers.

90. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein the keratinocytes comprise keratinocytes of human origin.

91. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, further comprising melanocytes and/or Langerhans cells and/or precursors of Langerhans cells.

92. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein said dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 8 to 18 compared to a control dermis.

93. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of animal or human origin.

94. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of bovine origin.

95. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein the glycated collagen comprises type I collagen.

96. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 87, wherein the fibroblasts comprise fibroblasts of human origin.

97. (Previously Presented) An epidermis equivalent comprising at least keratinocytes, said epidermis equivalent having a modified distribution of expression of β1 integrin, said epidermis equivalent being obtained by seeding of at least

keratinocytes onto an aged dermis equivalent comprising at least glycated collagen and fibroblasts.

98. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the modified distribution of expression is expression of β1 integrin in the cells of at least the first three suprabasal layers.

99. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the keratinocytes comprise keratinocytes of human origin.

100. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, further comprising melanocytes and/or Langerhans cells and/or precursors of Langerhans cells.

101. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 2-30 times that of a control dermis comprising collagen not subjected to the glycation process and fibroblasts.

102. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 101, wherein said aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 8 to 18 compared to a control dermis.

103. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of animal or human origin.

104. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of bovine origin.

105. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the glycated collagen comprises type I collagen.

106. (Previously Presented) The epidermis equivalent of Claim 97, wherein the fibroblasts comprise fibroblasts of human origin.

107. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining an epidermis equivalent according to Claim 87, comprising

seeding keratinocytes onto an aged dermis equivalent,

wherein the aged dermis equivalent comprises at least glycated collagen and fibroblasts and wherein the aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 2-30 times that of a control dermis comprising collagen not subjected to the glycation process and fibroblasts.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, comprising at least keratinocytes, said epidermis equivalent having a modified distribution of expression of β1 integrin.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 108, wherein the modified distribution of expression is expression of β1 integrin in the cells of at least the first three suprabasal layers.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein the keratinocytes comprise keratinocytes of human origin.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, further comprising melanocytes and/or Langerhans cells and/or precursors of Langerhans cells.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein said aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 8 to 18 compared to a control dermis.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of animal or human origin.

114. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of bovine origin.

115. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein the glycated collagen comprises type I collagen.

116. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 107, wherein the fibroblasts comprise fibroblasts of human origin.

117. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining an epidermis equivalent ~~with~~ having a modified distribution of β1 integrin expression according to Claim 97, comprising

constructing an epidermis equivalent by seeding at least keratinocytes on an aged dermis equivalent comprising at least collagen and fibroblasts to induce a modified distribution of β1 integrin expression.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the modified distribution of expression is expression of β1 integrin in the cells of at least the first three suprabasal layers.

119. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the keratinocytes comprise keratinocytes of human origin.

120. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, further comprising melanocytes and/or Langerhans cells and/or precursors of Langerhans cells.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 2-30 times that of a control dermis comprising collagen not subjected to the glycation process and fibroblasts.

122. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 121, wherein said aged dermis equivalent has a level of glycation from 8 to 18 compared to a control dermis.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of animal or human origin.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the glycated collagen comprises collagen of bovine origin.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the glycated collagen comprises type I collagen.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 117, wherein the fibroblasts comprise fibroblasts of human origin.